

Postdoctoral Fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology

VA Maryland Health Care System Baltimore Medical Center

http://www.maryland.va.gov

Applications due: December 1, 2020

Accreditation Status

The Postdoctoral Fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology at the Baltimore VA Medical Center is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American Psychological Association through 2022. Questions related to the program's accredited status should be directed to the Commission on Accreditation:

Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation American Psychological Association 750 1st Street, NE Washington, DC 20002

Phone: (202) 336-5979 / Email: apaaccred@apa.org

Web: www.apa.org/ed/accreditation

Application & Selection Procedures

This fellowship program will accept applicants who are U.S. citizens who received a doctorate from an APA- or CPA-accredited clinical, counseling, or combined program. Individuals with a doctorate in another area of psychology who meet APA criteria for re-specialization training in clinical or counseling psychology are also eligible. Applicants must have have completed an APA- or CPA-accredited clinical psychology internship or a VA-sponsored psychology internship. All fellows will be required to have completed all graduate coursework and their dissertation by the start of fellowship training and will have participated in active research programs, usually with resultant presentations/publications. Applicants may be required to pass a urine screen for illegal drug use, should HR request it under their random testing program of new appointees. Failure to meet these qualifications could nullify an offer to an applicant. Those who do not meet these eligibility requirements will be notified by the site as soon as possible. Please see page 13 for additional information regarding eligibility requirements.

The Postdoctoral Fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology abides by the policies stated in the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC), American Psychological Association (APA), and VA Office of Academic Affiliation (OAA) regulations. Applicants are referred to the APPIC website, www.appic.org, APA website, www.apa.org, and OAA website, www.va.gov/oaa/ for a detailed description of the policies.

The VAMHCS is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Our postdoctoral fellowship program values cultural and individual diversity and welcomes applicants from all backgrounds.

The successful candidate will have completed a specialty training program in neuropsychology or completed an internship with a primary concentration in neuropsychology.

All application materials must be received by **December 1, 2020** in order to be considered. Except under very unusual circumstances, all application materials must be submitted through the APPA CAS. The following documents must be uploaded to the APPA CAS and are required for application to our program:

- 1. A letter of interest that identifies career goals, expectations, and goodness of fit with the VAMHCS Postdoctoral Fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology.
- 2. A current curriculum vitae.
- 3. Official graduate transcripts.
- 4. A letter of status from your academic program with anticipated completion date, **including expected dissertation defense date**.
- 5. Three letters of recommendation, one of which must be from an internship supervisor. Please note that letters of recommendation are referred to as "evaluations" within the APPA CAS portal.
- 6. A de-identified assessment report appropriate to the Neuropsychology fellowship. Abbreviated batteries conducted via telehealth are acceptable.
- 7. An example of research or other scholarly work if available.
- 8. Federal form: Application for Associated Health Occupations (10-2850C), which may be obtained via the website: www.va.gov/vaforms/medical/pdf/vha-10-2850c-fill.pdf
- 9. Federal form: Declaration for Federal Employment (OF-306), which may be obtained via the website: http://www.opm.gov/forms/pdf_fill/of0306.PDF

Two fellows will be recruited for the 2021-2023 cycle. Interviews will occur virtually over a video-based platform. Interviews will be offered and conducted on a rolling basis until positions are filled. This fellowship *does not* participate in the APPCN match.

Questions regarding the fellowship or application process can be directed to:

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Psychology Setting

The Veterans Affairs Maryland Health Care System (VAMHCS) is a dynamic, multidivisional health care system consisting of Medical Centers at Baltimore, Loch Raven, and Perry Point, four Community-Based Outpatient Clinics, and a freestanding, 120-bed nursing home. The VAMHCS serves as a training facility closely affiliated with a number of local universities, including the University of Maryland School of Medicine.

Role of Psychology

VAMHCS Psychology Mission Statement: Psychologists honor and serve America's Veterans and their families through psychological services, research, and education. We recognize each individual's strengths, needs, abilities, and preferences, as we collaborate to optimize well-being and recovery.

The Mental Health Clinical Center is the largest Clinical Center within the VAMHCS, and it is organized into five service lines: Recovery Services, Psychological Services, Psychiatric Services, Rehabilitation Services and Outpatient Services. Mental health activities are conducted at all divisions and sites, and psychologists serve in leadership roles within the VAMHCS. VAMHCS employs approximately 70 psychologists. Jade Wolfman-Charles, Ph.D., is the Chief Psychologist and leader of the psychology service. She is responsible for the overall management of psychologists serving in the VAMHCS and assures professional integrity and competence in practice. She also serves on the Steering Committee of the VAMHCS/University of Maryland-Baltimore Psychology Internship Consortium and serves in an oversight role for all levels of psychology training.

The training environment in the VAMHCS offers both depth and breadth. The VAMHCS supports medical residency training across specialties, research training fellowships in clinical service and basic science, training programs in allied health professions (e.g., Social Work, Nursing, and Rehabilitation services), health services research, and multiple training programs in Psychology. Psychologists are active participants in medical residency and fellowship training programs, and provide lectures and assist in training for social work interns and nursing students that assist clinical programs.

VAMHCS takes pride in its training programs for psychologists. There are active practica for graduate students in psychology training programs in neuropsychology, trauma recovery, substance abuse, and community mental health. The neuropsychology program actively participates in training of doctoral candidates from area training programs, with an average of 2-4 externs per year. VAMHCS supports an APA-accredited internship training consortium in conjunction with the University of Maryland School of Medicine. The VAMHCS/University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM) Psychology Internship Training Consortium is composed of two divisions of the VAMHCS (the Baltimore Division and the Perry Point Division) and the UMSOM Department of Psychiatry. In the 2020-2021 training year, 16 predoctoral interns participated in psychology internship training, three of which were in the neuropsychology track. The postdoctoral fellowship in clincal neuropsychology entered its twelfth year in September 2020, and will be accepting two new fellows to begin on or around September 1, 2021.

Training Model and Program Philosophy

This fellowship has the dual goals of refining skills in assessment, treatment, consultation, and research relating to the specific needs of Veterans, as well as facilitating the development of fellows from trainees to independent psychologists. Our program philosophy is to base both the process and the content of training in research, with the goal of developing psychologists who apply the scientific method and knowledge to the assessment and treatment of maladaptive behavior. Studies of methods of training have consistently demonstrated that the modeling of desired behaviors, opportunities to practice those behaviors in a supervised environment, and specific feedback all result in changes in trainee behavior. Therefore, fellows will be able to observe psychologists, be observed, and receive timely feedback. Specific training in assessment or treatment for a particular presenting problem will be

grounded in research, VA clinical practice guidelines, and expert consensus on that problem. In addition, to foster fellows' development as independent scientist-practitioners, didactics and supervision will focus on what it means to function independently as a psychologist in a multidisciplinary hospital setting.

Program Goals & Objectives

The goal of the Postdoctoral Fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology is to help trainees become independent psychologists who are comfortable acting in consultation-liaison roles and working with multidisciplinary treatment and assessment teams in a medical environment. They will also gain proficiency in providing cognitive rehabilitation and other treatment interventions. Training in the provision of clinical services to Veterans remotely via telehealth technology will be provided. At the end of the experience, fellows should be capable of developing new assessment and treatment programs in conjunction with psychology and medical staff. Fellows will be eligible for board-certification in clinical neuropsychology upon completion of training.

At the end of the 2-year fellowship, it is expected that fellows will successfully demonstrate competence in the following domains:

- 1. <u>Professional values, attitudes, and behaviors</u>: Demonstrates a commitment to the professional values and attitudes symbolic of a health service psychologist as evidenced by a variety of behaviors.
- Ethics and legal matters: Demonstrates an ability to think critically about ethical and legal
 matters as they pertain to the professional practice of psychology. Demonstrates increasing
 competence identifying and addressing ethical and legal matters, as required or suggested
 by the APA guidelines, state laws, or institutional policies.
- 3. <u>Professional communication, consultation, and interpersonal skills</u>: Demonstrates the ability to effectively communicate with teams of providers, staff, and other stake holders as it relates to duties performed within the scope of professional psychology. Able to seek out consultation when needed and provide consultation to others in fellow's area of expertise.
- 4. <u>Individual and cultural diversity</u>: Demonstrates an ability to think critically about pertinent cultural and/or other individual differences that might impact the patient's presenting problem or his or her ability to engage in treatment/assessment.
- 5. <u>Theories and methods of psychological diagnosis and assessment</u>: Demonstrates an ability to produce thorough and meaningful integrated psychological assessment reports and communicate those findings effectively to patients and others (e.g., other providers, families, etc.). This includes:
 - a. Reliable administration, scoring, and interpretation of neuropsychological assessment measures.
 - b. Profiency in the neuropsychological assessment of persons referred through the polytrauma system of care.
 - c. Profiency in assessment and diagnosis of dementia.

- d. Profiency in assessment for a range of disorders common in Veterans including those with neurologic disorder.
- 6. Theories and methods of effective psychotherapeutic intervention: Demonstrates the ability to consistently and effectively engage and collaboratively develop intervention goals with patients with a wide range of presenting problems. Effectively selects, tailors and delivers appropriate evidence based (or where appropriate, evidence informed) interventions. This includes:
 - a. Proficiency in various treatment interventions for patients assessed within the VAMHCS Neuropsychology Clinic (e.g., cognitive rehabilitation, psychotherapy, etc.).
- 7. <u>Scholarly inquiry and application of current scientific knowledge to practice</u>: Demonstrates the initiative and ability to integrate scientific knowledge into professional clinical practice. This includes:
 - a. Preparation of presentations and publications related to the ongoing research in Neuropsychology.
- 8. <u>Clinical supervision</u>: Demonstrates an understanding of supervision theory and practice. Able to apply supervision principles to self under the guidance of a licensed psychologist. Ability to provide supervision to others. This includes:
 - a. Effective supervision of trainees at the predoctoral level.

Evaluation Procedures

The Track Coordinator meets with each fellow at the start of fellowship for goal-setting and specification of training objectives for each rotation. The program evaluates trainees in the following competency domains: professional values, attitudes, and behaviors; ethics and legal matters; individual and cultural diversity; psychological diagnosis and assessment; intervention; professional communication, consultation, and interpersonalskills; scholarly inquiry; and supervisory skills. Supervisors meet with each fellow to formally review the fellow's evaluation, goals, and progress toward goals every six months throughout the fellowship program. Informal feedback is given throughout fellowship training. The Track Coordinator will receive copies of the evaluations and will meet with the fellows as necessary to review the ratings and provide additional guidance and mentoring.

The program is also concerned with the fellows' subjective experience during their tenure. Every six months, fellows evaluate their primary supervisors, and submit evaluation forms to the Psychology Training Program Director. The Psychology Training Program Director compiles and de-identifies feedback and provides input to fellowship supervisors periodically, while addressing significant concerns (i.e., items rated as Unacceptable or Below Expectations) as they arise. Fellows also provide informal feedback to their primary supervisors over the course of the supervisory relationship. Fellows complete a formal review of the program at the end of each year focused on specific training objectives, the effectiveness of training on each of their rotations, and a review of any areas in need of improvement. This ensures fidelity of training by the supervisory staff involved and allows for improvement of the training program from year to year.

At orientation, fellows are provided a copy of the VAMHCS Due Process and Grievance Procedures document. In the event that problematic performance is identified or a trainee wishes to lodge a grievance against the training program, procedures as outlined in the VAMHCS Due Process and Grievance Procedures are followed.

Requirements for Completion

Fellows will be formally evaluated on a quarterly basis by their primary rotation supervisors. The following is a summary of ratings that could be assigned and the requirements for passing at each quarterly evaluation. In addition, the fellow should remain free of any breaches of APA Ethics Code throughout training.

COMPETENCY RATINGS

- Trainee does not demonstrate basic competency (below postdoc entry level expectations).
 Remedial plan required.
- **2** Trainee demonstrates basic competency at the postdoc entry level. Further growth necessary. A remedial plan may be needed.
- **3** Trainee demonstrates an intermediate level of competency. Performance is acceptable, but further growth is necessary.
- **4** Trainee demonstrates an intermediate to advanced level of competency, typical of postdocs at the end of the training year. Performance demonstrates skillfulness.
- **5** Trainee demonstrates consistently advanced level of competence, well beyond that which is expected for postdocs at the end of the training year. Performance demonstrates capacity for independent practice.

N/O - Not Observed

CRITERIA FOR COMPLETION

1st Quarter: All competency items should be rated as a 2 or higher. If a competency item is rated as a

1, then a remedial action plan is required for that item.

2nd Quarter: All competency items should be rated as a 3 or higher. If a competency item is rated as a

1 or a 2, then a remedial action plan is required for that item.

3rd Quarter: All competency items should be rated as a 3 AND 50% of items should be rated as a 4 or

higher. If a competency item is rated as a 1 or a 2, then a remedial action plan is

required for that item.

4th Quarter: All competency items should be rated as a 3 AND 75% of items should be rated as a 4 or

higher. If a competency item is rated as a 1 or a 2, then a remedial action plan is

required for that item.

Program Structure

The Neuropsychology Fellowship is a 2-year postdoctoral experience that is consistent with the Houston Conference and Division 40 guidelines for training in clinical neuropsychology. This is a full-time work commitment, with an average of 40 hours worked per week. Neuropsychology fellows' distribution of effort will be approximately 70% clinical and 30% research/didactics/program development. The emphasis of the program is on development of clinical skills, but there is an expectation that fellows participate in ongoing research and program development efforts. The training provided meets licensure requirements for the state of Maryland, and all supervisors will be licensed in a jurisdiction and able to certify training hours.

Neuropsychology is primarily a consultation-liaison service that evaluates patients referred from various clinics and units throughout the medical center. The primary clinics from which we receive referrals include Neurology, Primary Care, Geriatrics, and Mental Health. Diagnoses include neurodegenerative, endocrine, infectious, seizure, vascular disease, tumor, head trauma, and neuropsychiatric disorders. An increasing number of our referrals are for returning veterans from the OEF/OIF conflicts, many of whom have combat-related injuries and concerns. Patients come from diverse ethnic backgrounds and from all adult age ranges. We support a number of specialty clinics at present, including Geriatric Assessment, Polytrauma, Infectious Disease, Seizure, and Multiple Sclerosis Clinics.

Our program offers several major experiences in neuropsychology, including geriatrics/dementia and assessment and treatment of individuals with neurologic disorders. Fellows will be integrated into two multidisciplinary Neurology-based treatment teams [Multiple Sclerosis Centers of Excellence (MSCoE) and Epilepsy Centers of Excellence (ECoE)]. Fellows also support the general Consultation-Liaison service throughout their two-year tenure. When training on-site, opportunities for conducting assessments on an inpatient basis are provided. Fellows will gain experience conducting cognitive rehabilitation (individual and group) and psychotherapy with patients referred for intervention. The neuropsychology service has a number of active research programs, all with a clinical focus.

Supervision

Postdoctoral fellows specializing in Neuropsychology will receive at least two hours per week of face-to-face individual supervision (telesupervision permitted amid pandemic) as well as group supervision by Neuropsychology staff. All staff are board-eligible or board-certified (ABPP). Fellows present cases regularly during our in-house group supervision. Further, fellows are required to present at least one case per year in the Neuropsychology Seminar Series that is held via video-teleconference with several other VA/DoD/community-based training sites. In addition to receiving superivsion, fellows have the opportunity to provide tiered supervision to interns and graduate student externs selected for training at our site.

Training Experiences

The following training experiences are anticipated but are subject to change based on pandemic-related restrictions and staff availability:

1) Geriatric Neuropsychology. This rotation will involve assessment of patients referred for possible dementia and participation in the interdisciplinary geriatric assessment clinic (team includes Geriatric Medicine, Pharmacy, and Social Work).

- 2) Polytrauma. This experience will include follow-up evaluations of Veterans examined in the interdisciplinary Polytrauma and TBI clinic (including Rehabilitation Medicine, Social Work, Occupational Therapy and Speech-Language Pathology staff) as well as consultation with the Polytrauma team.
- 3) Multiple Sclerosis Centers of Excellence (MSCoE)-East. Fellows will attend MS Clinic and provide neuropsychological evaluations and therapeutic interventions to patients with MS.
- 4) Epilepsy Centers of Excellence (ECoE). Fellows will evaluate patients with epilepsy and psychogenic nonepileptic seizures (PNES). Additional clinical experiences include assessment during Wada procedures, participation in multidisciplinary pre-surgical case conferences, and provision of treatment interventions for patients with both epileptic seizures and PNES
- 5) Consultation-Liaison Service. This rotation includes triage of patients through consultation with physicians from various services (Primary Care, Neurology, Geriatrics, Infectious Disease, Cardiology, and Oncology), assessment of outpatients, and provision of feedback to patients, families, and providers. Trainees will be involved in this service throughout fellowship to ensure broad clinical training with a variety of patient populations.
- 6) Inpatient. This rotation will involve assessment of inpatients referred from a variety of units in the hospital (e.g., geriatrics, psychiatry). Evaluations will typically be same-day and often involve consultation with the patient's care team.
- 7) Intervention. Fellows will provide a variety of neuropsychological treatment interventions throughout their training. Treatment patients within our service typically have neurologic disease and/or cognitive impairment. Therapeutic interventions currently being offered include group and individual cognitive rehabilitation, psychotherapy, wellness groups for patients with MS, and a dementia caregiver support group.

Adaptations to Fellowship Training in Response to COVID-19 Pandemic

Members of leadership and training staff from the VAMHCS have worked collaboratively throughout the pandemic to prioritize high-quality training in a safe environment. Training has persisted without interruption and in accordance with local and national guidance (e.g., from APA, APPIC, and VA Office of Academic Affiliations-OAA). During the 2019-2020 training year, neuropsychology fellows transitioned to virtual training in mid-late March of 2020 and maintained clinical service delivery via telehealth. A comprehensive "teletraining" plan was implemented for each fellow that included individualized teletraining goals and a coding system to track telesupervision and adherence to program competencies. Second year neuropsychology fellows satisfied core program requirements virtually and completed the program on time.

For the 2020-2021 training year, individualized training plans have been developed and modified for first- and second-year neuropsychology fellows, respectively. Several factors have been considered in creating and refining plans (e.g., fellowship emphasis, training goals, personal circumstances, relevant guidance, specific clinical settings and safety procedures/protective equipment, telehealth readiness, etc.). As described above, a standardized coding system has been used to track individualized training goals, telesupervision, and all other training activities (e.g., clinical services, research, didactics,

professional development). This approach has provided a method for ongoing monitoring of the balance between different types of training activities to ensure accordance with broad programmatic competencies and individualized training goals. All neuropsychology fellows have been provided government furnished equipment (e.g., laptops, monitors, mobile devices) to support teletraining and the provision of services via telehealth. Currently, all neuropsychology fellows are training remotely and clinical services (e.g., neuropsychological assessment and intervention), didactics, research, and program evaluation/administrative tasks are occurring exclusively via virtual platforms. Multiple approaches for training have been developed to enhance our ability to adapt to evolving circumstances and guidance. If any fellow transitions to providing a degree of on-site, face-to-face care amid the pandemic, personal protective equipment (e.g., surgical masks, face shields, etc.) will be provided by the VAMHCS and screening and testing guidance will be followed. For fellows beginning during the 2021-2022 training year, determinations about training setting (e.g., virtual, in-person, hybrid) will be based on the status of the pandemic, VAMHCS policies, guidance from APA, APPIC, and OAA, and the safety and well-being of trainees, staff/faculty, and Veterans. We are committed to providing expeditious and transparent communications regarding any changes impacting current and/or incoming fellows.

Assessment approach

We use a flexible battery approach, with many batteries developed specific to the referral question based on empirical evidence. Training in computerized assessment and tele-assessment will be provided as applicable.

Didactic training

The Neuropsychology service has multiple required training activities for postdoctoral fellows including: 1) neuropsychology specialty seminar, featuring case conference and readings discussion via teleconference with Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and other DoD, VA, and communitybased training sites (weekly); 2) neuropsychology treatment group supervision; 3) neuropsychology assessment group supervision (includes case conferences, journal article reviews, report critiques, fact findings); 4) diversity seminar via teleconference with other VA sites (monthy); 5) neuropsychology rounds with staff (3x/year); 5) Neurology grand rounds (10x/year); 6) Neurology "Town & Gown" (a yearly half-day lecture series on various topics within Neurology); 7) professional development seminar (focuses on the practice of psychology as fellows transition from trainee to professional; monthly); and 8) supervision seminar (led by Psychology Training Program Director; includes didactic elements and process-oriented discussions regarding the receipt and provision of supervision; monthly). Attendance of neuropsychology professional meetings (e.g., INS, NAN, AACN) and conferences sponsored by the Veteran's Health Administration, VA MS Center of Excellence, Defense and Veteran's Brain Injury Center, and Defense Centers of Excellence in Psychological Health and TBI (DCoE) is encouraged. Fellows are encouraged to participate in relevant DCoE and VA teleconferences if relevant to their specialty area. Finally, postdoctoral fellows assist the staff in provision of didactics to interns and externs in the Psychology training program and the Geriatric Medicine Fellowship program.

Research

Fellows are required to become involved in an ongoing research project over the course of their training. Fellows gain mentored experience in various aspects of conducting research within an academic medical setting, including consent/IRB procedures, data collection, database management, data analysis, and preparation of data for presentation. Fellows are expected to present at one local or

national professional conference by the completion of training (e.g., poster or paper presentation at INS, AACN, NAN, etc.).

Examples of relevant Neuropsychology research projects include:

- 1) Exercise training and cognition-focused projects (e.g., in patients with chronic stroke, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease)
- 2) Study of early cognitive findings in Parkinson's disease: computerized and traditional cognitive tests
- 3) The impact of health comorbidities on neurocognitive functioning in Veterans with human immunodeficiency virus and/or hepatitis C
- 4) Asymptomatic carotid stenosis: cognitive functioning and plaque correlates
- 5) Cognitive telerehabilitation in multiple sclerosis: a pilot study
- 6) Geriatrics/dementia-focused projects

Psychology Staff

The neuropsychology service in Baltimore is comprised of 8 neuropsychologists, 4 postdoctoral fellows, 3 predoctoral interns, 2-4 graduate student externs, a psychology technician, and an administrative assistant. Staff members are involved in a number of active research programs. Our faculty and their current research interests are as described below.

Jeremy Carmasin, Ph.D. earned a doctorate in clinical psychology from the University of Louisville, with a focus in geropsychology. He completed his pre-doctoral internship in neuropsychology at the Western New York VA Medical Center. Dr. Carmasin completed his post-doctoral fellowship in clinical neuropsychology at Dartmouth College/Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center. He provides assessment, psychotherapy, and cognitive rehabilitation, and coordinates the VAMHCS Neuropsychology externships. His research interests include the assessment of early-stage cognitive decline in older adults, particularly associations with self- and informant-reported memory and executive functioning.

Jessica Dalrymple, Ph.D. earned a doctorate in clinical psychology from Fairleigh Dickinson University. She completed her predoctoral internship (neuropsychology track) at the James J. Peters VA Medical Center, followed by a two-year postdoctoral fellowship in clinical neuropsychology at the VA Maryland Health Care System. Dr. Dalrymple's current research interests include investigating factors that influence burden and distress in caregivers of Veterans with dementia, as well we the development and evaluation of individual and group interventions for managing cognitive symptoms in MS and other neurological conditions.

Moira Dux, Ph.D. is the Psychology Training Program Director at the VAMHCS and the Track Coordinator for the Postdoctoral Fellowship in HIV/Liver Diseases. She earned a doctorate in clinical psychology from Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science, in the program's neuropsychology track. She completed her pre-doctoral training (neuropsychology track) at the VA Maryland Health Care System/

University of Maryland School of Medicine. She then completed a research neuropsychology fellowship at the Baltimore VA. Dr. Dux was the recipient of a VA Career Development Award examining the effects of high-intensity aerobic exercise on autonomic, cognitive, and affective function post-stroke. Primary research interests include evaluation of exercise and cognitive rehabilitation interventions to improve aspects of cognitive, psychological, and physical function in individuals with dementia, neurologic disorders, and chronic diseases (e.g., Alzheimer's disease, MS, stroke, HIV/HCV). Dr. Dux also serves on an interdisciplinary team of researchers investigating the impact of asymptomatic carotid stenosis on cognition.

Anjeli Inscore, Psy.D., ABPP-CN is the Track Coordinator for the VA Postdoctoral Fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology. She earned a doctoral degree in clinical psychology from Loyola University in Maryland. She completed a pre-doctoral internship (neuropsychology track) at the VA Maryland Health Care System/University of Maryland Medical Center training consortium. She completed a one-year research postdoctoral fellowship in rehabilitation psychology and neuropsychology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine (JHUSOM), Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, followed by a two-year clinical postdoctoral fellowship in clinical neuropsychology at the JHUSOM Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. She has a research interest in geriatrics/dementia and is in the process of creating archival and prospective databases that will include medical, functional, and cognitive data on patients evaluated in the Geriatric Assessment Clinic.

Terry Lee-Wilk, Ph.D. is the Program Manager of Neuropsychology & Consultative Psychology. Dr. Lee-Wilk earned a doctorate degree in clinical/community psychology from the University of Maryland College Park. She completed her pre-doctoral internship at the University of Maryland Baltimore in Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, followed by a two-year postdoctoral fellowship in Neuropsychology at the VAMHCS/University of Maryland School of Medicine. She is a lifespan neuropsychologist who has trained and/or been employed at Children's National Medical Center and Kennedy Krieger Institute Departments of Neuropsychology. She is the lead neuropsychologist at the VA Multiple Sclerosis Centers of Excellence-East and serves as Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Department of Neurology at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. Currently, her research interests include cognitive telerehabilitation for patients with multiple sclerosis as well as factors impacting recovery from concussion.

Kristen Mordecai, Ph.D. earned a doctoral degree in clinical psychology from Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science, in the program's neuropsychology track. She completed her predoctoral training in clinical psychology focused in general and geriatric neuropsychology within the Boston Consortium in Clinical Psychology at the Veterans Affairs Boston Health Care System. Her two-year postdoctoral fellowship in neuropsychology was completed at the Veterans Affairs Maryland Health Care System within the Integrated Fellowship in Traumatic Brain Injury and Trauma Recovery in Returning Veterans program. She is the Neuropsychology liaison at the Baltimore VA Epilepsy Center of Excellence. Dr. Mordecai serves as an Adjunct Assistant Professor at the University of Maryland, School of Medicine, Department of Neurology. She also provides cognitive rehabilitation and psychotherapy for patients with neurologic disease, cognitive dysfunction, and psychogenic nonepileptic seizure. Her research interests include the cognitive effects of neurologic conditions such as Parkinson's disease, dementia, and MS as well as the development of cognitive rehabilitation and tele-mental health programs to address cognitive symptoms.

Patricia Ryan, Ph.D. obtained a master's degree in developmental psychology from Teachers College, Columbia University, before earning a doctoral degree in counseling psychology from Fordham University. She completed her internship and additional postdoctoral training at the Rusk Institute of

Rehabilitation Medicine, New York University Medical Center. Following that, she completed a two-year postdoctoral fellowship in rehabilitation psychology and neuropsychology at the Johns Hopkins Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, and joined the VAMHCS Neuropsychology staff in 2009. Since April 2020, Dr. Ryan has been on staff in the VISN 5 Caregiver Support Program, but she remains an affiliate member of the Neuropsychology Section. She works within the interdisciplinary Polytrauma Support Clinic Team as well as in the general consult clinic, providing assessment, psychotherapy, and cognitive rehabilitation services. Her research interests include the efficacy of various cognitive remediation modalities, as well as depression after TBI and stroke.

Megan M. Smith, Ph.D., ABPP-CN obtained a doctorate in clinical psychology from The Pennsylvania State University. She completed her predoctoral clinical internship and postdoctoral training in clinical neuropsychology at Brown University. From 2009-2014, she was an assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the Carver College of Medicine at the University of Iowa. Her major areas of research interest are cognition in neurodegenerative disorders and the neuropsychological correlates of depression. She coordinates the Psychology Postdoctoral Fellowship Professional Development Seminar and serves on the VAMHCS Ethics Consult Service.

Facility and Training Resources

Fellows are assigned an office which includes an individual work station with networked computer and a dedicated phone line. If remote work is occurring at the outset of the 2021-2022 training year, government furnished equipment (e.g., laptop, monitor, mobile device) will be requested for each fellow. The VAMHCS supports two statistical analysis software programs on their research servers, SAS and SPSS. The VAMHCS provides online access to multiple print and electronic journals and books. There is a large adminstrative staff within the VAMHCS Mental Heath Clinic and Executive Office, and fellows are provided access to adminstrative materials necessary to perform their clincial and research duties. Mr. Jovan Bess (Jovan.Bess@va.gov) is the dedicated Program Support Assistant for the VAMHCS Psychology Training Program.

Administrative Policies and Procedures

The term of the Neuropsychology fellowship will be full-time for two years beginning on or about Labor Day and ending on or about that day two years later. The first year stipend will be \$51,676. State and Federal income tax and FICA are withheld from residents' checks. Annual and sick leave are accrued at the rate of four hours per pay period and the fellows are entitled to ten federal holidays per year. Five days of additional authorized absence may be approved for attendance at conferences, workshops, or other educational activities. Fellows may also apply for up to \$1000 of tuition/travel expenses for training or conference experiences consistent with their training goals. Fellows are eligible for federal health insurance but not life insurance or retirement programs. Procedures for due process in case of problematic performance are in place, as are grievance procedures, both for fellows and psychology staff. A copy of these documents will be provided upon the start of fellowship. As per our privacy policy, we will collect no personal information about individuals who visit our website.

Local Information

The VA Medical Center in downtown Baltimore is located on the West side of the city about four blocks from Camden Yards and Ravens Stadium. We are in walking distance of the Inner Harbor, the Hippodrome, the Walters Art Museum, and various historic landmarks. Baltimore has an active live

music scene, interesting neighborhoods with unique shopping, and a vital downtown arts program (www.baltimore.org).

The surrounding area offers access to the Shenandoah Mountains, a variety of National and State Parks, and various historic sites. The Baltimore VAMC is a 40-minute drive from downtown Washington, DC.

Eligibility Requirements

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) adheres to all Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action policies. As a Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Health Professions Trainee (HPT), you will receive a Federal appointment, and the following requirements will apply prior to that appointment

- 1. **U.S. Citizenship.** HPTs who receive a direct stipend (pay) must be U.S. citizens. Trainees who are not VA paid (without compensation-WOC) who are not U.S. citizens may be appointed and must provide current immigrant, non-immigrant or exchange visitor documents.
- 2. **U.S. Social Security Number.** All VA appointees must have a U.S. social security number (SSN) prior to beginning the pre-employment, on-boarding process at the VA.
- 3. **Selective Service Registration.** Male applicants born after 12/31/1959 must have registered for the Selective Service by age 26 to be eligible for U.S. government employment, including selection as a paid or WOC VA trainee. For additional information about the Selective Service System, and to register or to check your registration status visit https://www.sss.gov/. Anyone who was required to register but did not register before the age of 26 will need to apply for a Status Information Letter (SIL) and request a waiver. Waivers are rare and requests will be reviewed on a case by case basis by the VA Office of Human Resources Management. This process can take up to six months for a verdict.
- 4. **Fingerprint Screening and Background Investigation.** All HPTs will be fingerprinted and undergo screenings and background investigations. Additional details about the required background checks can be found at the following website: http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/codification/executive-order/10450.html.
- 5. **Drug Testing.** Per Executive Order 12564, the VA strives to be a Drug-Free Workplace. HPTs are not drug-tested prior to appointment, however are subject to random drug testing throughout the entire VA appointment period. You will be asked to sign an acknowledgement form stating you are aware of this practice. See item 8 below.
- 6. **Affiliation Agreement.** To ensure shared responsibility between an academic program and the VA there must be a current and fully executed Academic Affiliation Agreement on file with the VHA Office of Academic Affiliations (OAA). The affiliation agreement delineates the duties of VA and the affiliated institution. Most APA-accredited doctoral programs have an agreement on file. More information about this document can be found at https://www.va.gov/oaa/agreements.asp (see section on psychology internships). Post-degree programs typically will not have an affiliation agreement, as the HPT is no longer enrolled in an academic program and the program is VA sponsored.

- 7. TQCVL. To streamline on-boarding of HPTs, VHA Office of Academic Affiliations requires completion of a Trainee Qualifications and Credentials Verification Letter (TQCVL). An Educational Official at the Affiliate must complete and sign this letter. For post-graduate programs where an affiliate is not the program sponsor, this process must be completed by the VA Training Director. Your VA appointment cannot happen until the TQCVL is submitted and signed by senior leadership from the VA facility. For more information about this document, please visit https://www.va.gov/OAA/TQCVL.asp
 - a. **Health Requirements**. Among other things, the TQCVL confirms that you, the trainee, are fit to perform the essential functions (physical and mental) of the training program and immunized following current Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines and VHA policy. This protects you, other employees and patients while working in a healthcare facility. Required are annual tuberculosis screening, Hepatitis B vaccine as well as annual influenza vaccine. *Declinations are EXTREMELY rare*. If you decline the flu vaccine you will be required to wear a mask while in patient care areas of the VA.
 - b. **Primary source verification of all prior education and training** is certified via the TQCVL. Training and Program Directors will be contacting the appropriate institutions to ensure you have the appropriate qualifications and credentials as required by the admission criteria of the training program in which you are enrolled.
 - 8. Additional On-boarding Forms. Additional pre-employment forms include the Application for Health Professions Trainees (VA 10-2850D) and the Declaration for Federal Employment (OF 306). These documents and others are available online for review at https://www.va.gov/oaa/app-forms.asp. Falsifying any answer on these required Federal documents will result in the inability to appoint or immediate dismissal from the training program.
 - 9. **Proof of Identity per VA.** VA on-boarding requires presentation of two source documents (IDs). Documents must be unexpired and names on both documents must match. For more information visit: https://www.oit.va.gov/programs/piv/media/docs/IDMatrix.pdf

Additional information regarding eligibility requirements for appointment as a psychology HPT can be found at the end of this brochure.

Additional information regarding eligibility requirements (with hyperlinks)

- Trainees receive term employee appointments and must meet eligibility requirements for appointment as outlined in VA Handbook 5005 Staffing, Part II, Section B. Appointment Requirements and Determinations. https://www.va.gov/vapubs/viewPublication.asp?Pub_ID=646&FType=2
- Selective Service website where the requirements, benefits and penalties of registering vs. not registering are outlined: https://www.sss.gov/Registration/Why-Register/Benefits-and-Penalties

Additional information specific suitability information from Title 5 (referenced in VHA Handbook 5005 – hyperlinks included):

- **(b)** *Specific factors.* In determining whether a person is suitable for Federal employment, only the following factors will be considered a basis for finding a person unsuitable and taking a suitability action:
 - (1) Misconduct or negligence in employment;

- (2) Criminal or dishonest conduct;
- (3) Material, intentional false statement, or deception or fraud in examination or appointment;
- (4) Refusal to furnish testimony as required by § 5.4 of this chapter;
- **(5)** Alcohol abuse, without evidence of substantial rehabilitation, of a nature and duration that suggests that the applicant or appointee would be prevented from performing the duties of the position in question, or would constitute a direct threat to the property or safety of the applicant or appointee or others;
- **(6)** Illegal use of narcotics, drugs, or other controlled substances without evidence of substantial rehabilitation;
- (7) Knowing and willful engagement in acts or activities designed to overthrow the U.S. Government by force; and
- (8) Any statutory or regulatory bar which prevents the lawful employment of the person involved in the position in question.
- **(c)** Additional considerations. OPM and agencies must consider any of the following additional considerations to the extent OPM or the relevant agency, in its sole discretion, deems any of them pertinent to the individual case:
 - (1) The nature of the position for which the person is applying or in which the person is employed;
 - (2) The nature and seriousness of the conduct;
 - (3) The circumstances surrounding the conduct;
 - (4) The recency of the conduct;
 - (5) The age of the person involved at the time of the conduct;
 - (6) Contributing societal conditions; and
 - (7) The absence or presence of rehabilitation or efforts toward rehabilitation.

Appendix A – Neuropsychology Fellowship Competency Evaluation

Tra	ninee:	Supervisors:	
Da	te:	Rotation/Clinic:	
Fv:	aluation time point:	Quarter 1	Quarter 2
LV	ardation time point.		•
		Quarter 3	Quarter 4
	Assessi	ment Method(s)	
	Direct observation Videotape Audiotape Case presentation	Review Discuss	of written work of raw test data ion of clinical interaction ents from other staff
Сомре	TENCY RATINGS		
1-	TRAINEE DOES NOT DEMONSTRATE BASIC COMPERENT REMEDIAL PLAN REQUIRED.	TENCY (BELOW FELLOW EN	TRY LEVEL EXPECTATIONS).
2-	TRAINEE DEMONSTRATES BASIC COMPETENCY AT NECESSARY. A REMEDIAL PLAN MAY BE NEEDED.	THE FELLOW ENTRY LEVEL.	FURTHER GROWTH IS
3 –	TRAINEE DEMONSTRATES AN INTERMEDIATE LEVE FURTHER GROWTH IS NECESSARY.	EL OF COMPETENCY. PERFO	RMANCE IS ACCEPTABLE, BUT
4 –	TRAINEE DEMONSTRATES AN INTERMEDIATE TO A		
5-	TRAINEE DEMONSTRATES CONSISTENTLY ADVANCE EXPECTED FOR FELLOWS AT THE CONCLUSION OF INDEPENDENT PRACTICE.		
N/O -	NOT OBSERVED		

COMPETENCY AREA 1: PROFESSIONAL VALUES, ATTITUDES, AND BEHAVIORS

GOAL: Demonstrates a commitment to the professional values and attitudes symbolic of a clinical psychologist as evidenced by a variety of behaviors.

Rating Scale

- 1 Intensive supervision needed
- **2** Close supervision needed
- **3** Regular/Typical supervision needed
- **4** Intermittent supervision needed
- **5** Minimal supervision needed

N/O - Not Observed

ITEN	15	RATING
1.	Demonstrates ability to build good working relationships	
2.	Actively/meaningfully participates in team meetings	
3.	Maintains professional boundaries	
4.	Prioritizes various tasks efficiently	
5.	Makes adjustments to priorities as demands evolve	
6.	Manages personal stressors so they have minimal impact on professional practice	

Program Specific Goal:

ITEM	IS .	RATING
7.	Completes clinical and administrative tasks (e.g., pace of test administration,	
	report turnaround time, posting of notes, etc.) in a timely fashion	

COMPETENCY AREA 2: ETHICS AND LEGAL MATTERS

GOAL: Demonstrates an ability to think critically about ethical and legal matters as they pertain to the professional practice of psychology. Demonstrates increasing competence identifying and addressing ethical and legal matters, as required or suggested by the APA guidelines, state laws, or institutional policies.

Rating Scale

- 1 Intensive supervision needed
- 2 Close supervision needed
- 3 Regular/Typical supervision needed
- 4 Intermittent supervision needed
- 5 Minimal supervision needed

N/O – Not Observed

Awareness of, and adherence to, APA ethical guidelines
 Effectively identifies ethical and legal issues
 Effectively addresses ethical and legal issues

- 4. Takes proactive steps to address ethical and legal issues

 5. Evaluates risk (e.g., suicidal/homicidal concerns) when appropriate
- 6. Discusses issues of confidentiality with patients
- 7. Discusses and obtains informed consent with patients
- 8. Recognizes and responds appropriately to patient crises
- 9. Maintains complete records of all patient interactions
- 10. Notes are timely

ITEMS

RATING

COMPETENCY AREA 3: PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION, CONSULTATION AND INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

GOAL: Demonstrates the ability to effectively communicate with teams of providers, staff, and other stake holders as it relates to duties performed within the scope of professional psychology. Able to seek out consultation when needed and provide consultation to others in fellow's area of expertise.

Rating Scale

- 1 Intensive supervision needed
- 2 Close supervision needed
- **3** Regular/Typical supervision needed
- 4 Intermittent supervision needed
- 5 Minimal supervision needed

N/O - Not Observed

ITEMS **RATING** 1. Demonstrates an ability to identify when consultation is needed 2. Actively seeks consultation when treating complex cases and working with unfamiliar symptoms 3. Gives the appropriate level of guidance when providing consultation to other health care professionals 4. Coordinates care with other providers in or outside the clinical setting 5. Demonstrates an ability to take into account the referring provider(s) level of knowledge regarding psychological theory, methods, and principles when providing information 6. Handles differences with staff members effectively 7. Demonstrates an ability to relate well to those seeking input 8. Is able to discuss differences in perspectives with in professional settings 9. Demonstrates an ability to establish good working rapport with his or her supervisor

Program Specific Goals:

10. Clinical presentations are professional, inclusive of relevant information yet concise, respectful in tone, tailored to the audience, appropriate scientific sources are integrated and cited, as applicable

11. Assumes an active role as a consultant within an interdisciplinary team setting; provides appropriate level of guidance to trainees on the team

COMPETENCY AREA 4: INDIVIDUAL AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY

GOAL: Demonstrates an ability to think critically about pertinent cultural and/or other individual differences that might impact the patient's presenting problem or his or her ability to engage in treatment/assessment.

Rating Scale

- **1** Intensive supervision needed
- 2 Close supervision needed
- 3 Regular/Typical supervision needed
- 4 Intermittent supervision needed
- 5 Minimal supervision needed
- N/O Not Observed

1. Discusses individual differences with patients

2. Recognizes when more information is needed regarding patient's diversity

3. Actively seeks supervision or consultation when uncertain about issues related to diversity

4. Aware of own identity and potential impact on clients

5. Actively seeks out scientific literature or other materials to expand understanding of individual and cultural differences

Program Specific Goals:

ΙΤΙ	EMS	RATING
6	6. Considers individual difference factors in assessment (e.g., approach,	
	conceptualization, report-writing, feedback)	
7	. Considers individual difference factors in treatment	

COMPETENCY AREA 5: THEORIES AND METHODS OF PSYCHOLOGICAL DIAGNOSIS AND ASSESSMENT

GOAL: Demonstrates an ability to produce thorough and meaningful integrated psychological assessment reports and communicate those findings effectively to patients and others (e.g., other providers, families, etc.)

Rating Scale

- **1** Intensive supervision needed
- 2 Close supervision needed
- **3** Regular/Typical supervision needed
- **4** Intermittent supervision needed
- **5** Minimal supervision needed

N/O – Not Observed

ITEM	S	RATING
1.	Selects appropriate assessment measures	
2.	Effectively administers psychological tests	
3.	Effectively scores psychological tests	
4.	Demonstrates strong diagnostic interviewing skills	
5.	Demonstrates strong differential diagnostic skills	
6.	Accurately interprets psychological tests	
7.	Accurately integrates and synthesizes information from multiple sources	
	(e.g., tests, chart, self-report, medical evaluations, medication list)	
8.	Writes assessment reports that effectively address the referral question(s)	
9.	Formulates well conceptualized and useful recommendations	
10.	Reports clearly describe all pertinent information (e.g., presenting problem, background information)	
11.	Effectively communicates results with patients and others (e.g., family members, referring provider)	
12.	Reports have minimal careless errors (e.g., typos, grammatical errors, scoring errors)	

Rating Scale

- 1 Intensive supervision needed
- **2** Close supervision needed
- 3 Regular/Typical supervision needed
- 4 Intermittent supervision needed
- 5 Minimal supervision needed
- N/O Not Observed

Program Specific Goals:

13. Prepares for each patient with a thorough review of case history

14. Actively prepares the battery (i.e., suggests appropriate assessment measures)

15. Identifies when modifications to the testing battery are needed and discusses with supervisor

16. Reliably administers, scores, and interprets neuropsychological assessment measures

17. Demonstrates proficiency in the neuropsychological assessment of persons referred through the polytrauma system of care

18. Demonstrates proficiency in the assessment and diagnosis of dementia

19. Demonstrates proficiency in the assessment for a range of disorders common in Veterans including those with neurological disorders

COMPETENCY AREA 6: THEORIES AND METHODS OF EFFECTIVE PSYCHOTHERAPEUTIC/NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL INTERVENTION

GOAL: Demonstrates the ability to consistently and effectively engage and collaboratively develop therapy goals with patients with a wide range of presenting problems. Effectively selects, tailors and delivers appropriate evidence based (or where appropriate, evidence informed) interventions.

Rating Scale

- 1 Intensive supervision needed
- 2 Close supervision needed
- **3** Regular/Typical supervision needed
- 4 Intermittent supervision needed
- 5 Minimal supervision needed

N/O - Not Observed

ITEMS RATING 1. Effectively develops rapport with treatment patients 2. Establishes measurable goals with patients as part of the treatment planning process 3. Formulates a useful case conceptualization from a theoretical perspective 4. Monitors patient progress towards reaching treatment goals as part of treatment 5. Selects appropriate interventions with patients 6. Implements appropriate interventions with patients 7. Effectively applies therapeutic strategies 8. Effectively manages the termination process 9. Demonstrates an awareness of personal issues that could interfere with therapy 10. Demonstrates the ability to maintain group order and focus on goals of session 11. Develops appropriate goals for the nature and duration of the group 12. Displays an ability to manage group dynamics 13. Demonstrates an ability to function as a group co-facilitator

14. Implements evidenced-based interventions with appropriate modifications consistent with patient population

Rating Scale

- **1** Intensive supervision needed
- 2 Close supervision needed
- **3** Regular/Typical supervision needed
- 4 Intermittent supervision needed
- **5** Minimal supervision needed
- N/O Not Observed

Program Specific Goal:

TEMS RATING **15. Demonstrates proficiency in various treatment interventions for patients**

assessed within the VAMHCS Neuropsychology Clinic (e.g., cognitive rehabilitation, psychotherapy, behavioral management for dementia, etc.)

COMPETENCY AREA 7: SCHOLARLY INQUIRY AND APPLICATION OF CURRENT SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE TO PRACTICE

GOAL: Demonstrates the initiative and ability to integrate scientific knowledge into professional clinical practice.

Rating Scale

- **1** Intensive supervision needed
- **2** Close supervision needed
- **3** Regular/Typical supervision needed
- **4** Intermittent supervision needed
- **5** Minimal supervision needed

N/O - Not Observed

ITEN	1S	RATING
1.	Independently seeks out information to enhance clinical practice	
2.	Demonstrates initiative to incorporate scientific knowledge into clinical practice	
3.	Identifies areas of needed knowledge with specific clients	
4.	Asks for and responsive to supervisor's suggestions of additional informational resources	

Program Specific Goal:

ITEM	1S	RATING
5.	Prepares presentations and publications related to ongoing research in	
	Neuropsychology	

COMPETENCY AREA 8: CLINICAL SUPERVISION

GOAL: Demonstrates an understanding of supervision theory and practice. Able to apply supervision principles to self under the guidance of a licensed psychologist. Ability to provide supervision to others when such activities are available in specific clinical settings.

Rating Scale

- 1 Intensive supervision needed
- 2 Close supervision needed
- 3 Regular/Typical supervision needed
- 4 Intermittent supervision needed
- 5 Minimal supervision needed
- N/O Not Observed

1. Identifies major components of models of supervision

2. Seeks out information regarding supervision theory/practice using relevant scientific and other professional sources

3. Demonstrates ability to effectively self-supervise

4. Demonstrates an ability to establish good working rapport with his or her supervisee

5. Consistently recognizes relevant issues related to supervision

6. Effectively applies supervision skills

7. Effectively discusses the supervisory process with supervisor

8. Effectively receives supervisory feedback

9. Effectively gives supervisory feedback

Program Specific Goal:

<u>ITEMS</u>	RATING
10. Effectively supervises trainees at the predoctoral level	

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS

Summary of strengths:

•

Areas needing additional development or remediation, including recommendations:

•

Remedial Work Instructions: In the rare situation when it is recognized that a trainee needs remedial work, a competency assessment form should be filled out immediately, prior to any deadline date for evaluation, and shared with the trainee and the Psychology Training Program Director. In order to allow the trainee to gain competency and meet passing criteria for the rotation, these areas must be addressed proactively and a remedial plan needs to be devised and implemented promptly. The supervisor and trainee will complete a follow-up evaluation within 30 days of the establishment of a remedial plan and will provide a copy to the Training Director. If the minimal threshold for competency is not met at that time, the Training Director may convene a Review Panel that may develop formal remedial recommendations as outlined in the *Procedures for Remediation of Trainees' Problematic Behaviors and Performance and Addressing Trainees' Grievances* document. For VA fellows, if the rotation ends before competencies are met, the Training Director will work with the supervisor for the next rotation to put a training plan in place that addresses areas of weakness identified in the previous rotation.

Goal for fellow evaluations completed at the conclusion of Quarter 1: All competency items should be rated as a 2 or higher (expected fellowship entry level). If a competency item is rated as a 1 then a remedial action plan is required for that item. A remedial action plan may be developed for items rated at a 2.

Goal for fellow evaluations completed at the conclusion of Quarter 2: All competency items should be rated as a 3 or higher. If a competency item is rated as a 1 or a 2, then a remedial action plan is required for that item.

Goal for fellow evaluations completed at the conclusion of Quarter 3: All competency items should be rated as a 3 <u>AND</u> 50% of items should be rated as a 4 or higher. If a competency item is rated as a 1 or a 2, then a remedial action plan is required for that item.

Goal for fellow evaluations completed at the conclusion of Quarter 4: All competency items should be rated as a 3 <u>AND</u> 75% of items should be rated as a 4 or higher. If a competency item is rated as a 1 or a 2, then a remedial action plan is required for that item.

	• •	the above goal for this evaluation period. V	Ve
TI p ir	ndicated for completion. Once the reme	eted the above goal for this evaluation medial plan as attached, with specific dates edial plan has been satisfied, the trainee wil narked as such. All evaluations have been	
Supervisor		Date	
Supervisor		Date	
Supervisor		Date	

Trainee Comments Regarding Competency Evalua	tion (if any):
I have received a full explanation of this evaluation necessarily indicate my agreement.	. I understand that my signature does not
Trainee	Date

<u>Appendix B – Graduated Levels of Responsibility Form</u>

VAMHCS/UM SOM PSYCHOLOGY TRAINING PROGRAMS

Graduated Levels of Responsibility for Psychology Trainees

Supervisee:			□Extern	□ Intern	□Fellow
Rotation/Placement: _			Date):	
Rating Time Point: initial Other:		rotation change/ midyear/annual			

In accord with VHA Handbook 1400.04 *Supervision of Associated Health Trainees* and its supervision requirements related to graduated levels of responsibility for safe and effective care of veterans, we have evaluated the above individual's clinical experience, judgment, knowledge, and technical skill, and we have determined that the trainee will be allowed to perform the following clinical activities within the context of the below assigned levels of responsibility.

As part of this evaluation, at the initiation of new clinical activity (e.g., new clinical placement or rotation) the supervising practitioner (licensed psychologist) directly observed at least one trainee clinical encounter to determine level of supervision required. Changes to level of supervision as a result of remediation or skill development (i.e., greater autonomy) will be documented through the completion of a new form.

Supervision Levels

Room: The supervising practitioner (SP) is physically present in the same room while the trainee is engaged in health care services.

<u>Area:</u> The SP is in the same physical area and is immediately accessible to the trainee. SP meets and interacts with veteran as needed. Trainee and SP discuss, plan, or review evaluation or treatment. Area supervision is available only when the trainee has formally been assigned a Graduated Level of Responsibility commensurate with this type of supervision.

*Available: Services furnished by trainee under SP's guidance. SP's presence is not required during the provision of services. SP available immediately by phone or pager and able to be physically present as needed. This type of supervision is permissible only when the trainee has formally been assigned a Graduated Level of Responsibility commensurate with this type of supervision.

Please indicate a level of supervision for each clinical activity the supervisee is performing. Ultimately, the supervising practitioner determines which specific activities the trainee will be allowed to perform within the context of these assigned levels of responsibility.

Activity Types	Level of Supervision		
General Clinical Activity	Room	Area	Available
Diagnose within the Scope of Psychology			
Psychological Testing			
Psychotherapy			
Consultation/Liaison			
Crisis Intervention			
Prevention (UM only)			
Specialized Clinical Activity			
Neuropsychology			
Geropsychology			
Cognitive Rehabilitation			
Biofeedback		·	

Supervisor Name:	_
Supervisor Signature:	_ Date:
Supervisee Name:	_
Supervisee Signature:	Date:
Training Director Name:	_
Training Director Signature:	Date:

Appendix C: Supervisor Evaluation Form

VAMHCS Psychology Training Program Clinical Supervisor/Site Feedback Form

Student Name:	Supervisor Name:				
Rotation/Clinic:	Date:				
Evaluation time point:	6 months	12 months			
	18 months	24 months			

Please use the scale provided below to rate your current supervisor and rotation/site:

N/A	Exceeds Expectations Not Applicable	domain. This area/domain is not applicable/does not apply.
EE	Significantly	Supervisor/site <u>greatly exceeds</u> my expectations within this
SE	Slightly Above Expectations	Supervisor/site <u>slightly</u> surpasses my expectations within this domain.
ME	Meets Expectations	Supervisor/site <u>meets</u> my expectations within this domain.
*BE	Below Expectations	Supervisor/site is performing <u>slightly below</u> my expectations within this domain. Supervision is, at times, inadequate in meeting the trainee's needs within this domain. This domain is a clear area for growth.
*UN	Unacceptable	Supervisor/site is performing <u>far below</u> my expectations within this domain. Supervision is consistently inadequate within this domain and/or poses potential harm to patients or trainees (e.g., ethical violation such as breach of confidentiality, boundary violations; hostile work environment).

<u>IMPORTANT</u>: Please note that any "unacceptable" (UN) ratings may automatically trigger follow-up action by the training director. Thus, this rating should be reserved for circumstances in which you believe the supervisor's behavior/aspects of your training site may pose potential harm to patients or trainees.

*Please provide a brief explanation in the comments section for any domain with a rating of UN or BE. You may use the comments section to explain other ratings, whenever necessary.

QUALITY OF SUPERVISION

Category 1: Supervisory Process / Working Alliance

My supervisor	Rating					
	UN	BE	ME	SE	EE	N/A
Set clear expectations at the outset of the rotation/year.						
Expressed interest in and commitment to my growth as a clinician.						
Appeared open to feedback (e.g., I felt "safe" expressing positive and negative feelings regarding supervision) AND adequately responded to this feedback (e.g., implemented changes or addressed differences in opinion), as needed.						
Provided feedback in a constructive/tactful manner.						

Yes 🗌	No \square *Please note that discussing these items with your supervisor is <u>not</u> required, though
typically e	encouraged.

Comments:

Category 2: Supervisory Responsibilities

My supervisor	Rating					
	UN	BE	ME	SE	EE	N/A
Was at supervisory meetings promptly and reliably.						
Was available for supervision outside of regularly scheduled meetings (e.g., spot supervision, urgent/emergent situations, phone consultation).						
Provided feedback in a timely manner.						
Educated me about expectations with respect to roles, documentation, and policies (e.g., confidentiality, etc.)						

Comments:

Collaboratively developed a plan to meet my training goals/needs at the start of the rotation, and reviewed						
throughout the course of supervision.						
Helped me navigate/problem-solve any challenges I encountered within the rotation (e.g., time						
management concerns, etc.).						
Ensured that I had the resources necessary to perform my rotation-related duties (e.g., keys, office space, manuals, computer access, etc.).						
Have you provided feedback to your supervisor regarding any items rated "UN" or "BE"?						
Yes \square No \square *Please note that discussing these items with	n your s	supervi	sor is <u>no</u>	<u>ot</u> requi	red, the	ough
typically encouraged.						

Category 3: Supervisory Content

In supervision, my supervisor			Rat	ing		
	UN	BE	ME	SE	EE	N/A
Discussed ethical issues/concerns and legal matters.						
Discussed case conceptualization.						
Discussed client diversity & case conceptualization in context of diversity-related client factors.						
Discussed/provided education about risk issues and their documentation (e.g., suicide and homicide risk assessment, reporting child abuse, etc.).						
Encouraged me to engage in scholarly inquiry/reference the literature.						
Provided opportunities for training in theories and methods of psychological diagnosis and assessment.						
Provided guidance in the administration of empirically supported treatments, based on the client's presenting problems.						
Provided tiered clinical supervision ("supervision of supervision").						

Have you provided feedback to your supervisor regarding any items rated "U	N" or "BE"?
Yes \square No \square *Please note that discussing these items with your supervisor is <u>not</u> r typically encouraged.	equired, though
Comments:	

Category 4: Use of Supervisory Tools

Note: For Category 4, please indicate whether or not a given supervisory tool was used by your supervisor by checking the "Yes" or "No" box. If the tool was used by your supervisor (e.g., you checked "Yes"), please rate how effective your supervisor was in using that tool. Mark "N/A" if a tool was not used by your supervisor.

a tool was not used by your supervisor.	T						
My supervisor made effective use of	Used in			Rat	ing		
	Supervision?	UN	BE	ME	SE	EE	N/A
Modeling skills (e.g., role play	Yes □ No□						
exercises, etc.).							
Live supervision when co-leading	Yes □ No□						
groups.							
Live supervision in other clinical	Yes □ No□						
contexts (e.g., observation of							
assessment, clinical interviews,							
individual sessions, etc.).							
Audio recordings.	Yes □ No□						
Sharing their own case material/past	Yes □ No□						
experiences with clients, when				_			
appropriate.							
Specific didactic materials (e.g.,	Yes □ No□						
readings, trainings) that were effective							
in expanding my knowledge base in							
the field and/or rotation specialty area.							

Have you	uprovided feedback to your supervisor regarding any items rated "UN" or "BE"?
Yes 🗆	No \square *Please note that discussing these items with your supervisor is <u>not</u> required, though
typically e	encouraged.

Comments:

Category 5: Professional Development

My supervisor	Rating					
	UN	BE	ME	SE	EE	N/A
Guided me in becoming a valued member of the treatment team/clinic.						
Encouraged me to demonstrate greater autonomy, as my capabilities and skills allowed.						
Discussed development of my professional identity as a psychologist in the treatment context (e.g., interdisciplinary team, school, clinic, etc.)						

Encouraged application of current scientific						
knowledge to clinical practice.						
Provided opportunities for training in professional						
communication and consultation.	_		_			
Have you provided feedback to your supervisor regarding any items rated "UN" or "BE"?						
Yes \square No \square *Please note that discussing these items with your supervisor is <u>not</u> required, though						
typically encouraged.						
cypically checal ageal						

Comments:

Category 6: Assistance in Meeting Rotation-Specific Training Goals

Please Note: This section provides you the opportunity to evaluate your supervisor's effectiveness in teaching/supervision of the training goals set forth at the beginning of the rotation/year. Please refer to the Psychology Trainee Competency Assessment Form to fill in your training goals for the rotation below.

The supervisor demonstrated developmentally appropriate and constructive feedback in		Rating						
teaching/supervision of the following treatment modalities/skills, which represent the core focus of this rotation:	UN	BE	ME	SE	EE	N/A		
1.								
2.								
3.								

Have you provided feedback to your supervisor regard	ling any	items	rated '	"UN" d	or "BE'	' ?
Yes \square No \square *Please note that discussing these items with typically encouraged.						
Comments:						
Cata	0.4					
Category 7: Supervisory	Outco	omes				
As a result of the supervision I received on this			Rati	ing		
rotation with this supervisor	UN	BE	ME	SE	EE	N/A
I feel more confident with respect to my clinical knowledge.						
I feel more confident in my clinical skills/abilities.						
My competence in clinical assessment has increased.						
My competence in the delivery of therapy has increased.						
I have become more autonomous in my professional activities.						
I feel more prepared for the next step in my career						
(e.g., postdoctoral fellowship, staff psychologist, faculty position).						
Have you provided feedback to your supervisor regard	ing any	items	rated '	"UN" (or "BE"	'?
Yes □ No □*Please note that discussing these items wi	th your s	supervis	sor is no	t requi	red, the	ough
	•	•			-	-
typically encouraged.						

Category 8: Overall/Global Rating of Supervision

Overall	Rating					
	UN	BE	ME	SE	EE	N/A
The supervisor fulfilled his/her supervisory responsibilities.						

The supervisory content was effective in meeting my training needs for the rotation.							
The supervisor adequately addressed diversity issues in supervision.							
The supervisor provided adequate assistance in my development as a scientist-practitioner.							
The supervisor provided adequate assistance in my professional development.							
Have you provided feedback to your supervisor regardi	ng anv	items	rated '	'UN" c	or "BE"	'?	
Yes \square No \square *Please note that discussing these items with typically encouraged.							
Comments:							
What were the best aspects of supervision (e.g.	sno	rific st	rongt	hc\2			
what were the best aspects of supervision (e.g.	, spec	LIIIC SC	i engu	115):			
<u> </u>							
What aspects of supervision could use the most	t impı	rovem	ent (e	e.g., s	pecifi	С	
growth edges)?							

Please note your sumn trainees.	nary recommendation	on for this supe	ervisor	tor tu	ture			
Do Not Recommend*	Recommend	nend Recommend Without Hesitation						
*Please provide comme	ents:							
	QUALITY OF ROTATI	ION/CLINIC SIT	<u>E</u>					
My current	site/rotation provided.				Rati	ng		
			UN	BE	ME	SE	EE	Ν
Sufficient orientation to it procedures.	s mission, policies, and	general						[
Training opportunities in I	ne with my training goa	als.						[
Resources needed to perform office space, books/manus	-	, • .						[
A sense of being an integrateam.	ated/valued member of	the treatment						[
Proper safety measures to situations (e.g., shuttle to		ially threatening						[
Have you provided feedba	ck to your site regardin	g any items rated	"UN" (or "BE"	? Yes			
No 🗆								
*Please note that discussing t	hese items with your supe	rvisor is <u>not</u> require	d, thou	gh typico	ally			
encouraged.								
Comments:								

Aside from the supervision you received on this rotation...

What were the best aspects of this rotation/clinic site?						
What aspects of the ro	tation/clinic site c	ould use the mo	ost improvement?			
Please note your sumn future trainees.	nary recommenda	tion for this rota	ation/clinical site fo	r		
Do Not Recommend*	Recommend	Recommend	Without Hesitation			
*Please provide comme	ents:					

Acknowledgment & Signatures

I have discussed the s	supervisor's strengths and growth edges a	s well as the best aspects	and
areas for improveme	nt in the rotation with my supervisor as of	this date. Yes	No 🗆
Student Signature		Date	-
Training Director	Moira Dux, Ph.D.	Date	-

VAMHCS Psychology Training Program

Supervisor/Trainee Discussion Guidance Form

In addition to considering specific strengths and growth edges you identified using the supervisor evaluation form, please use the following questions to help guide your discussion of supervision with your supervisor. Importantly, this form is only meant to help guide your discussion – you are not required to share this form with your supervisor.

- What did you find most helpful in supervision?
- What aspects of your supervisor's approach to supervision have been most useful/ effective in your development as a scientist-practitioner?
- What would you like **more** of in terms of supervision*?

Aside from the supervision you received on this rotation...

- What aspects of your clinic/site have been most useful/effective in your development as a scientist-practitioner?
- What aspects of the rotation/clinic site could use the most improvement*?

^{*}Small Disclaimer: Discussing what you would like more of (e.g., "Please listen to every minute of every session and provide me with detailed written feedback!") does not guarantee that this will happen. BUT it may be helpful in starting a conversation about your training needs and how your supervisor can support you in meeting those needs.